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Chapter 5 Annotation

Introduction

Annotation, as it pertains to this chapter, includes both text and dimensions. This chapter will outline the text styles and dimension styles in use at CFLHD, as well as some of the key settings associated with these styles.

Text

MicroStation 2004 gives the user the ability to save the various text settings as a text style. With MicroStation 2004 text styles the user no longer needs to set text parameters such as text font, height, width, etc. each time text is needed. Each of these settings are saved within a text style.



Figure 5-1: Place Text

In the example above, the user has selected STANDARD as the text style and all of the parameters stored with this style will be active

Also new with MicroStation 2004 Edition is **annotation scale**. Annotation scale allows the user to set an annotation scale for the current model allowing text to be scaled to fit the desired output. With this tool, the drawing elements are at a 1:1 scale, but the text will be placed to fit the final scale of the drawing. This also allows CFLHD to have 1 text style for each type of text, title, standard, italic, non-italic, etc., rather than 1 for each type and each scale within each type. Annotation scale definition files for U.S. Customary and Metric units can be found on the CFLHD network at:

N:\Standards\Microstation\V8\English or Metric\data\ or on the CFLHD website at:

http://www.cflhd.gov/cadd/standard_files/Annotation_Scale.zip



As stated in the Chapter 1 description of new tools, the use of multiple models within each **.dgn** file is not allowed per the CFLHD CADD Standards. However, every drawing must have at least 1 model. This 1 model may be renamed and an annotation scale may be set from the model properties dialog box, as shown in Workflow 2.

STANDARD

At CFLHD there is 1 text style for each italics and non-italics for both standard text and title/heading text, for both English and Metric CFLHD projects. This is a total of 4 text styles for English and 4 for Metric.

The main attributes of each are the text height, width, and line spacing, at a scale of 1"=100' for U.S. Customary and 1:1000 for Metric, and the font. CFLHD will use the Verdana true type font for most text on CFLHD projects.

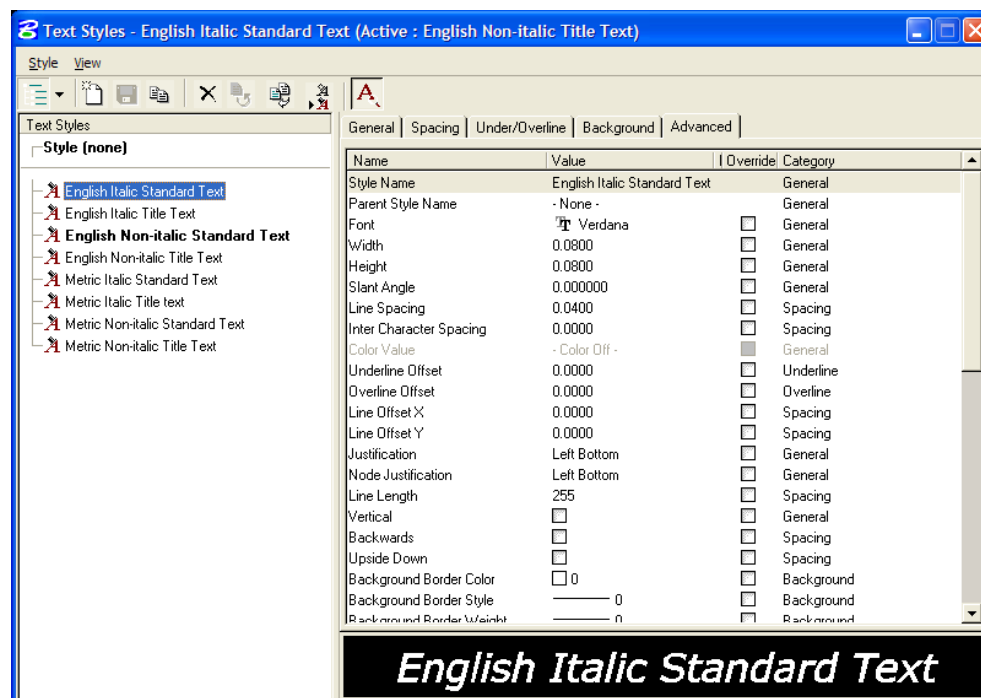


Figure 5-2: CFLHD Text Styles

As mentioned above, available in MicroStation 2004 Edition is the use of true type fonts and AutoCAD .shx fonts. MicroStation will automatically find true type fonts installed on each computer in the operating system \fonts directory, and will find AutoCAD .shx file in the AutoCAD system \fonts directory. The original MicroStation fonts are still available for use.

These text styles are contained in 2 Libraries called **cfl_English_text_styles.dgnlib** and **cfl_Metric_text_styles.dgnlib** when this library is attached properly will be available to each user. The CFLHD DGN Library can be found on the CFLHD network at: N:\Standards\MicroStation\v8\NoUnits\level_library, or on the CFLHD website at:

http://www.cflhd.gov/cadd/standard_files/text_styles_v8_cfl.zip



DGN Libraries are the containers for 3 important features in MicroStation V8. These include: Levels, Text Styles and Dimension Styles. With the DGN library attached each of these will be available to the user. For CFLHD employees, attaching the DGN Library will be done automatically. For CFLHD consultants, use the following workflow to attach the DGN Library through a configuration variable.

Workflow 1: Attaching the CFLHD DGN Library

1. *Select Workspace>Configuration from the main MicroStation pull down menus*

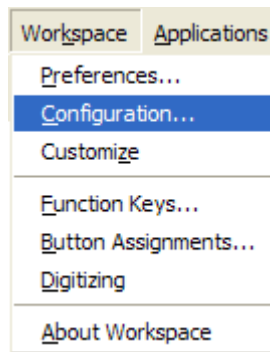


Figure 5-3: Workspace Menu

2. *In the Workspace configuration list, select MS_DGNLIBLIST*

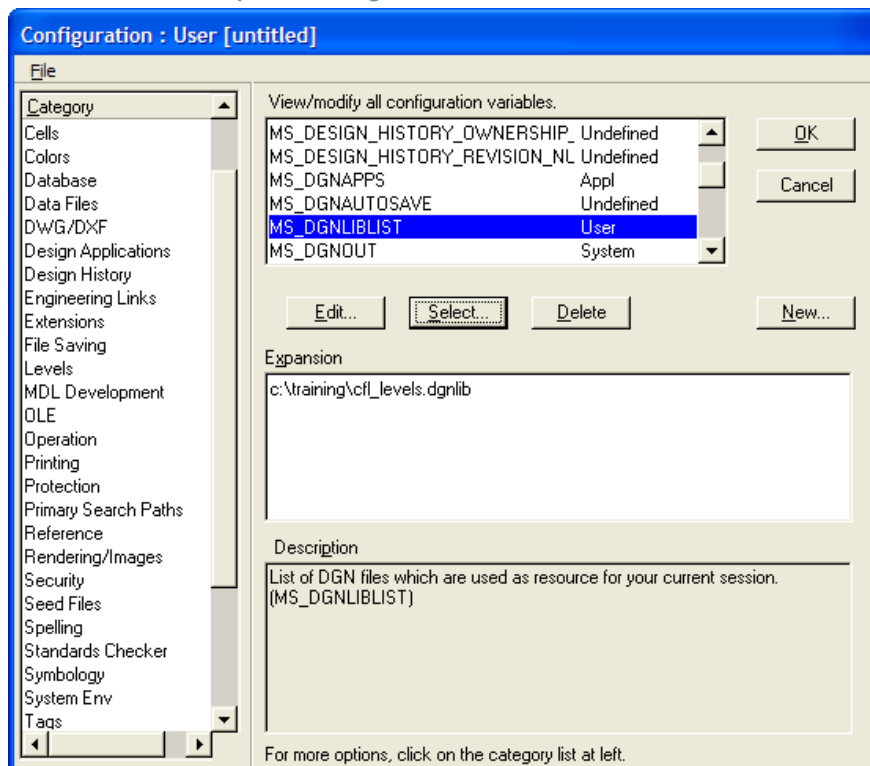


Figure 5-4: DGNLIBLIST Configuration Variable

3. Choose the select button, and path to the location of the DGN Library.
4. Select the library and click the Add button to add the file to the File List section in the bottom of the dialog box.

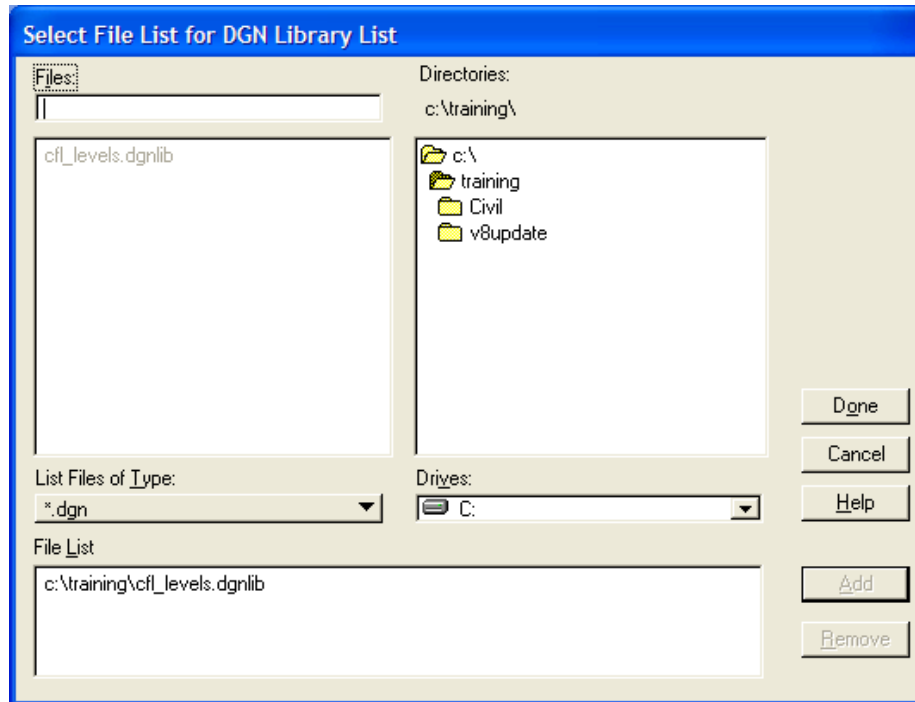


Figure 5-5: Select DGN Library

5. Select Done.
6. When prompted to save changes to workspace, select Yes.

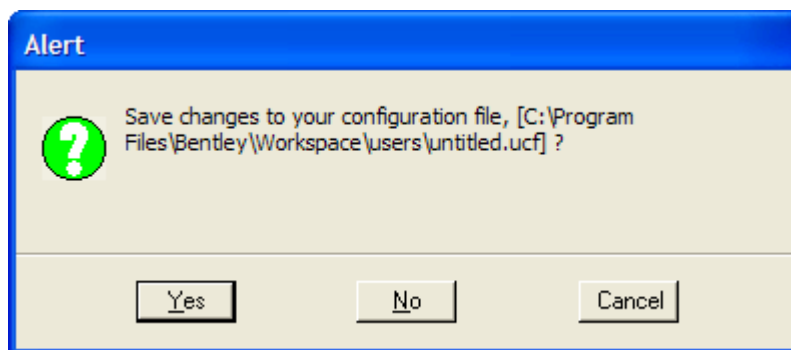


Figure 5-6: MicroStation Alert Dialog

7. In order for these changes to take affect you must exit MicroStation and restart.

Text Sizes

The following tables outline the text sizes to be used on CFLHD plans. These text sizes have been incorporated into the use of annotation scale, as shown below.

Metric Text sizes									
11x17 Sheet size	Scale n:1								
Description	50	100	200	250	300	400	500	1000	2000
Standard Text	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	1	2	4
Text Spacing	0.05	0.1	0.2	0.25	0.3	0.4	0.5	1	2
Title/Heading Text	.015	0.3	0.6	0.75	0.9	1.2	1.5	3	6
Sheet Layout Information									
Meters per plan sheet	17.5	35	70	75	100	140	175	350	700
Major tick spacing	2.5	5	10	25	25	25	25	50	100
Minor tick spacing	0.5	1	2	5	5	5	5	10	20

Table 5-1: Metric Text Sizes

English Text sizes							
11x17 Sheet size	Scale ft/in						
Description	10	20	40	50	100	200	500
Standard Text	0.8	1.6	3.2	4	8	16	40
Text Spacing	0.4	0.8	1.6	2	4	8	20
Title/Heading Text	1.2	2.4	4.8	6	12	24	60
Sheet Layout Information							
Feet per plan sheet	140	280	560	700	1400	2800	7000
Major tick spacing	50	100	100	100	500	1000	1000
Minor tick spacing	10	25	50	50	100	100	500

Table 5-2: English Text Sizes



Standard text height for Metric drawings is calculated as: $\text{Scale} \times 0.002$. The standard text height for English drawings is calculated as: $\text{Scale} \times 0.08$. Text width will always = text height. Text spacing = text height $\times .5$

Workflow 2: Annotation Scale, Setting the Model Properties

1. From the MicroStation Primary toolbar, select the Models icon.

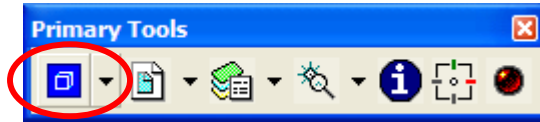


Figure 5-7: Primary Tools

2. From the Models dialog box, select Model Properties.

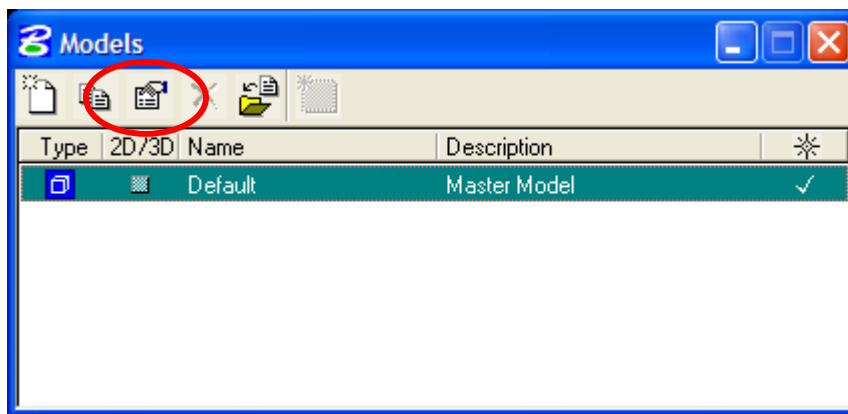


Figure 5-8: Models Dialog

3. Select the Edit Model Properties Icon.

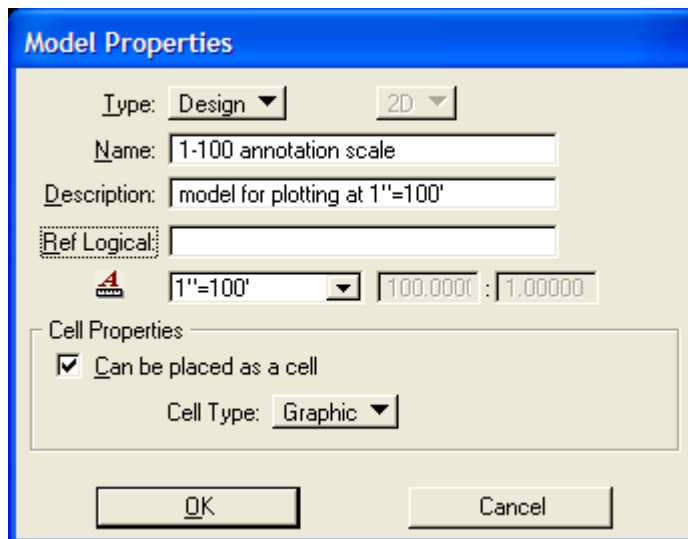


Figure 5-9: Model Properties

4. You can rename the model, give a new description and select the annotation scale from the dialog above. In the example above,

the annotation scale has been set to 1"=100'. Once the model properties have been set, select OK.

Workflow 3: Annotation Scale, Setting Annotation Lock and Placing Text

1. *Annotation Lock can be selected from the main MicroStation pull down menus by selecting Settings>Locks>Annotation Scale, as shown on the left below, or by using the locks menu on the MicroStation status bar, as shown on the right below.*

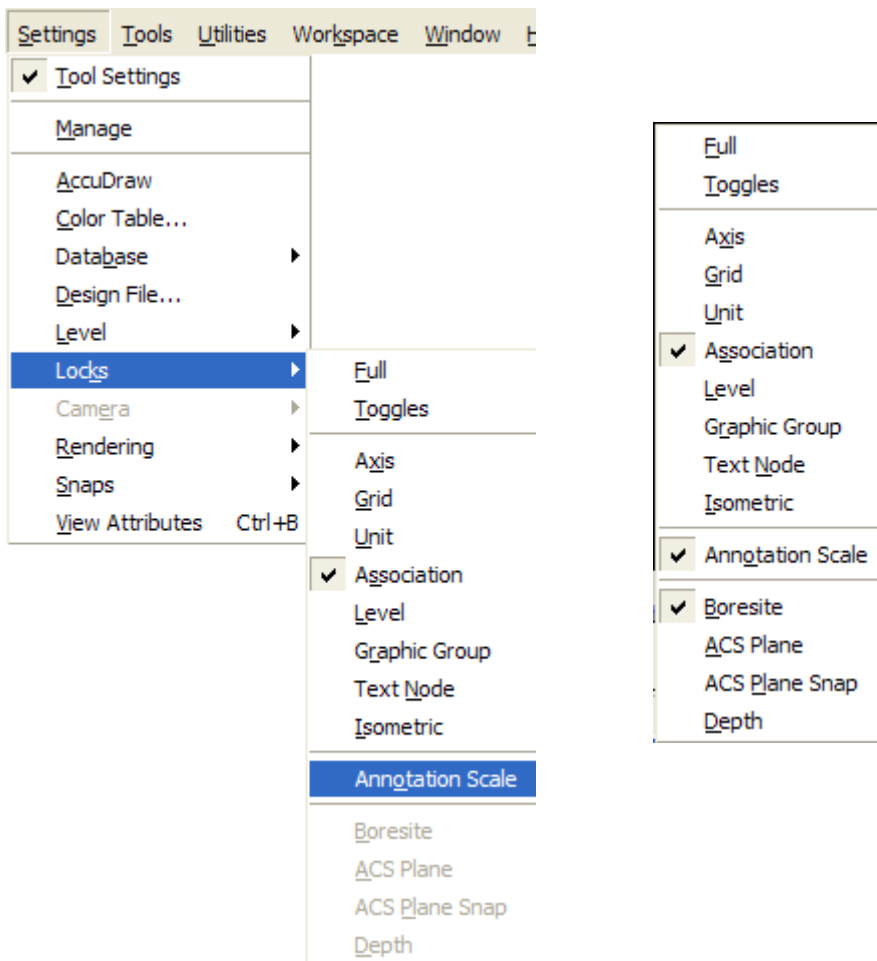


Figure 5-10: Annotation Scale

2. *With Annotation Scale lock on, text will now be placed at the proper size for the output scale.*
3. *Select the Place Text tool.*

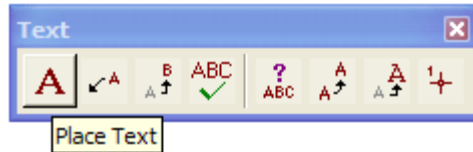


Figure 5-11: Text Menu

4. From the tool settings window, select the desired text style.

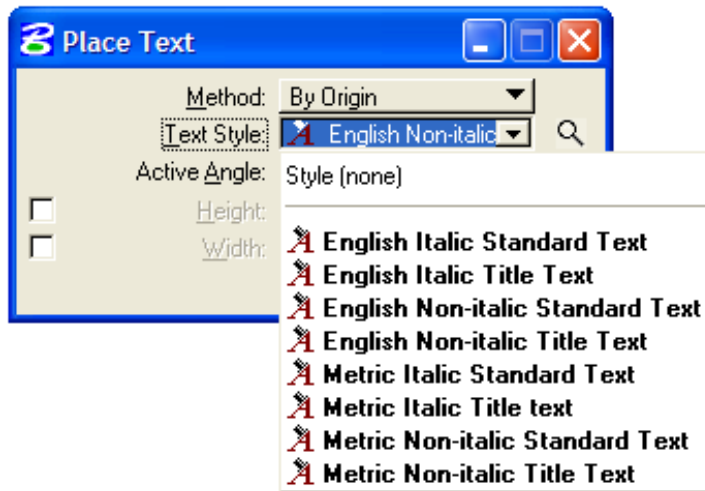


Figure 5-12: Select Text Style

5. By selecting the English Italics Standard Text, the proper text size, font, line spacing, etc. will be set automatically.

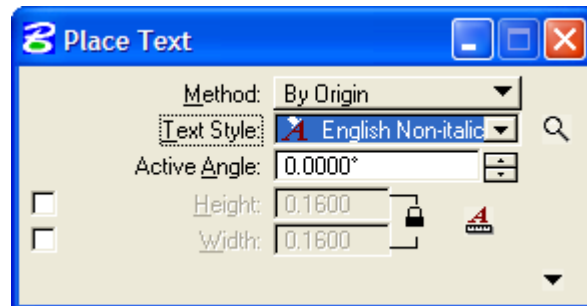


Figure 5-13: Place Text Dialog

6. Begin placing text.

Dimensions

Also new in MicroStation V8, 2004 Edition, is the introduction of Dimension Styles. This is a huge benefit for users of the dimensioning tools in MicroStation. Previously, from the MicroStation J Dimension Settings dialog box shown below, users had to setup how dimensions would look each time they used dimensioning, and once the setup was complete there was no way to save these settings.

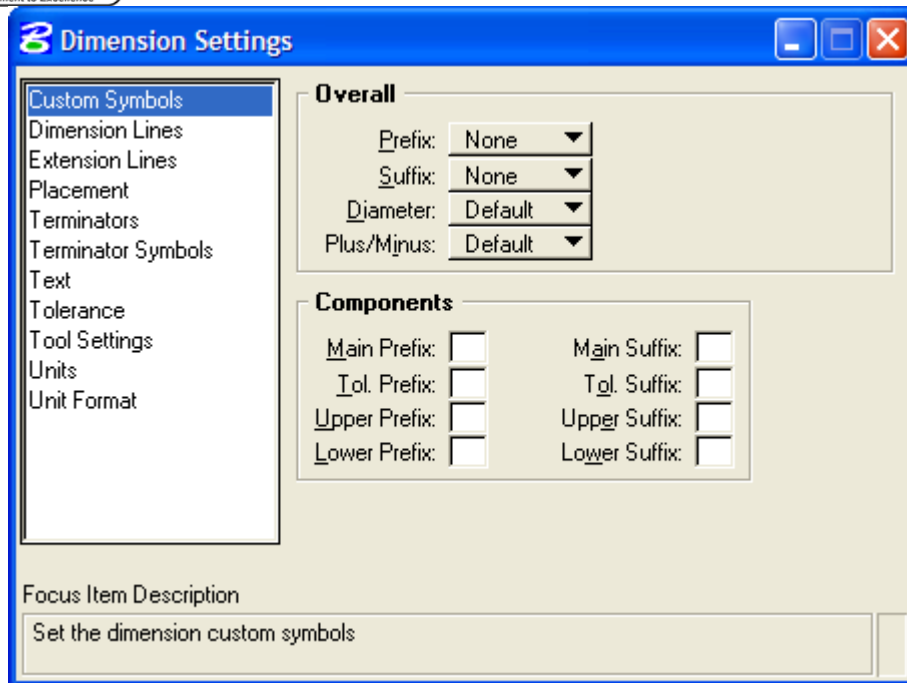


Figure 5-14: MicroStation J Dimension Settings dialog box

In MicroStation V8, 2004 Edition the user may setup the parameters for dimensioning and save these parameters as a dimension style, much like text styles, for use at a later time, as shown below. As discussed above, these styles will be contained in a DGN Library that will be attached automatically for CFLHD employees, and will need to be attached through a configuration variable for consultants working on CFLHD projects. See workflow 1 above for information on setting up the configuration variable.

As with text, dimension styles also use the Annotation scale to control the size of dimension text. Currently there are 2 dimension styles currently used for Metric and U.S. Customary units. These dimension styles use the correct levels and text styles for CFLHD work. As with text, simply select the dimension tool, then, from the tool settings window, select the correct dimension style, as shown below.

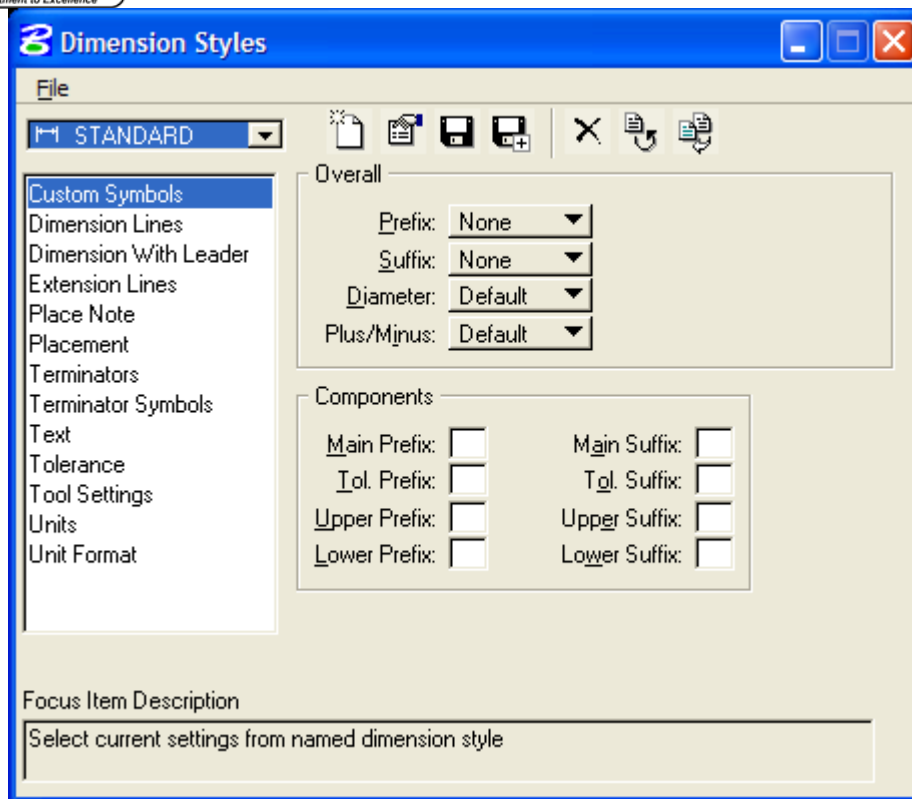


Figure 5-15: MicroStation 2004 Dimension Styles dialog box

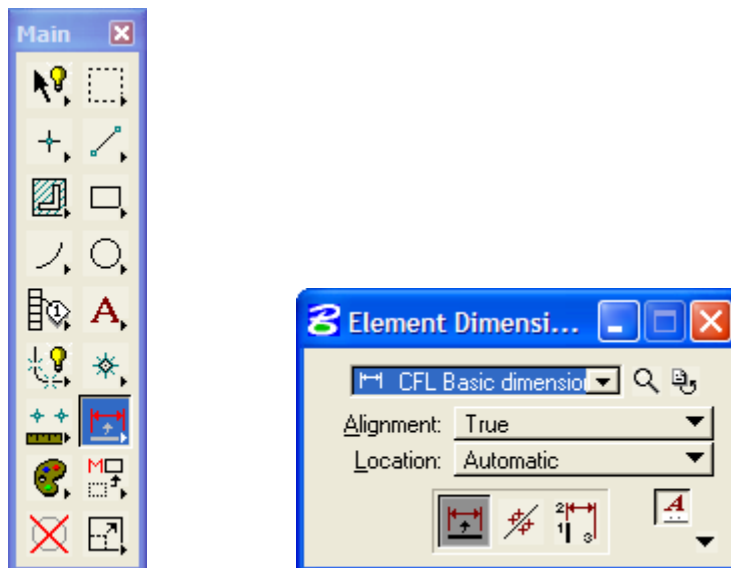


Figure 5-16: Dimensioning dialog boxes